



# *COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA*

*Department for the Aging*

Jay W. DeBoer, J.D., Commissioner

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**COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA**  
*Department for the Aging*  
Jay W. DeBoer, J.D., Commissioner

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Executive Directors  
Area Agencies on Aging

**FROM:** Janet Dingle Brown, Guardianship & Legal Services Development Coordinator

**DATE:** April 13, 2005

**SUBJECT:** Results of Legal Services Survey

Thank you for your participation in the legal services survey for Virginia Area Agencies on Aging (We obtained 100% participation). You will recall that we asked all the AAAs to complete this survey in February so that we could better assess the strengths and weaknesses of our current programs as mandated under the Older Americans Act. Our ultimate goal in obtaining this information was to “tailor” future legal services training, policies and procedures to ensure successful legal assistance programs for the elderly/disabled throughout the Commonwealth. Based on the information you provided, we are currently developing tools to assist you.

There are a total of 25 AAA programs. Twenty-four of these programs offer legal assistance while 1 program has a waiver. Of the programs offering legal services, 18 or 75% subcontract this service to legal aid programs funded by Legal Services Corporation (LSC Federally Funded programs). Two of the programs (8%), handle legal services themselves (i.e. “in-house”) and the remaining 4 programs (17%) subcontract services to other attorneys, a non-LSC legal aid program or use *pro bono* attorneys. Interestingly, 18, or 75% of the programs are interested in legal services training for themselves (in other words, even though the majority of the programs subcontract the legal assistance component, the majority of programs are still interested in receiving legal assistance training for their in-house staff). Another four programs are specifically interested in exploring ways to increase funding for AAA legal assistance programs and/or legal assistance tools such as the Elder Law overview chart. So, a total of 22 programs or 92% are interested in obtaining specific skills to assist (and/or

Results of Legal Services Survey  
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empower) their in-house staff! This is exciting news and provides great opportunity for collaborative efforts.

In the coming months, we will advise you of specific legal assistance training opportunities. Thank you again for your help.

cc: Legal Services Directors, Area Agencies on Aging

**COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA**  
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**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Executive Directors  
 Area Agencies on Aging

**FROM:** Tim M. Catherman  
 Deputy Commissioner, Support Services

**DATE:** April 13, 2005

**SUBJECT:** Virginia Aging and AoA in the News

Below are Virginia Aging or AoA related articles that have occurred since last week's Tuesday E-mailing. These links do not require a paid service; however, some (like the Washington Post, etc.) ask a brief survey or registration. Please note some links are time sensitive and can change daily. Some articles may be editorial and/or political. Links are presented 'as is'.

If you are aware of articles that I am missing, please e-mail me a link for inclusion next week.

**VDA**

[Checking up for Saturday, April 9, 2005](#)

Lynchburg News and Advance - Lynchburg, VA,  
 ... It has resulted in a cut of \$75,000 to the budget of the Central Virginia Area Agency on Aging for the coming year. ... Jay W. DeBoer, commissioner of the state ...

[Advancing Alzheimer's Research](#)

Burke Connection - VA  
 ... "Long term, we hope to have the Web site set up so citizens themselves can use it," said Bill Peterson, deputy commissioner Virginia Department for the Aging. ...

**Virginia AAAs In the News**

[Council hears input on budget](#)

Lynchburg News and Advance - Lynchburg, VA  
 Issues at the public hearing for the 2005-06 fiscal year budget included funding for local ... The Central Virginia Area Agency on Aging requested \$62,443 ...

## **Virginia Aging and AoA in the News**

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#### [Where to get help](#)

Daily Press - Newport News, VA

... The Peninsula Agency on Aging keeps a list of elder-law attorneys or can refer people to the Legal Aid Society of Eastern Virginia. Call (757) 873-0541. ...

#### **Other**

#### [VCOA-ARDRAF](#)

... Administering Agency: Virginia Center on Aging, Virginia Commonwealth University

... Subsequent Related Funding Obtained by ARDRAF Awardees: ...

#### [Virginia grants a first for Jewish agencies](#)

Washington Jewish Week - Rockville, MD

... elderly patrons; the Jewish Council for the Aging will receive ... The group found a champion in Virginia Del ... for me," Callahan said about obtaining funding for the ...

#### [Summer camp to lend a hand to senior caregivers](#)

Delaware Coast Press - Rehoboth Beach, DE

... Camp Respite is funded by the Older Americans Act through the National Family Caregiver Support Program and is administered by the US Administration on Aging.